

United States Department of the Interior



Pu‘uhonua o Hōnaunau National Historical Park
PO Box 129
Hōnaunau, HI 96726
(808) 328-2326 PHONE (808) 328-9485 FAX

EDUCATIONAL FEE WAIVER CRITERIA AND APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

National Park Service regulations allow school groups and other *bona fide* national and international educational institutions to obtain a waiver of park entrance fees, provided that the visit is for educational or scientific purposes, and the resources or facilities the group proposes to use support those purposes.

Educational fee waivers are not granted automatically. Applicant groups must show they qualify for the waiver. There are three criteria the group must meet to qualify for an educational fee waiver: eligibility, educational purpose, and relevance of park resources or facilities.

1. Eligibility

Applicants must prove they are a bona fide educational or scientific institution by submitting one of the following types of documentation:

- A statement confirming educational or scientific tax-exemption, letter from the IRS or the applicant’s national, state, or local tax authority; or
- A statement, from a bona fide educational institution meeting one of these eligibility standards, confirming that the group is visiting for the purpose of providing transferable educational credit based on a curriculum; or,
- A statement of accreditation, or recognition as an educational institution, from a qualified national, regional, state or local authority for the applicant’s location.
- **YOUR FEE WAIVER CANNOT BE PROCESSED WITHOUT SUBMISSION OF THIS DOCUMENTATION.**

2. Educational Purpose of the Visit

Applicants must provide a written statement confirming that the visit supports a specific curriculum for which academic credit is offered. If the group is on a commercial tour, the applicant must state how the tour supports the curriculum.

3. Relevance of Park Resources and Detailed Itinerary

Applicants must provide a written statement identifying the park resources and/or facilities that will be used to support the educational purpose of the visit, and how they are relevant to that purpose.

Applicants must provide a detailed itinerary which **must** include arrival and departure times; if group is attending scheduled Ranger Orientation Program and use of Picnic Area (requests can only be made for groups of 50 or less).

To apply for an educational fee waiver, complete the attached application and be sure to include the following:

1. Attach current, official documentation of recognition as an educational institution by Federal, State or local government entity or other evidence attesting to educational status (e.g. accreditation letter, tax exemption status).
2. Written statement confirming a direct relationship between the visit purpose and the use of the Park. The visit must be to study some aspect/resource specific to the park. A general statement to the effect that the visit is for “academic” or educational purposes” is insufficient by itself. An explanation of what the educational purpose entails and how it is related to Park resources is required (course outlines, lesson plans, or a copy of the curriculum meet this requirement).
3. A written statement confirming that the visit supports a specific curriculum for which academic credit ID offered.
Documentation such as a copy of the school’s course catalog or handbook will satisfy this requirement, plus a detailed itinerary.

Submit your application package **at least 2 weeks in advance** of the visit. Applications that are incomplete may be denied. Please submit application by mail or fax to:

Pu‘uhonua o Hōnaunau National Historical Park
Attn: Division of Interpretation
PO Box 129
Hōnaunau, HI 96726
Fax: (808) 328-9485
Phone: (808) 328-2326 x1204

If the application is approved, a copy of the application with an approval signature will be faxed to you. Each vehicle must present a copy of the approved fee waiver at the park entrance station. Fees will not be waived for vehicles that do not have a copy of the waiver.

Additional Information:

Entrance station personnel are not authorized to approve fee waivers at the entrance stations.

When the anticipated visit is recreational, you enter as an “organized non-commercial” group. The following, outlined in RM-22 Federal Rules and Regulations, is that in effect:

- Organizations that are generally considered service, civic or fraternal, e.g. Scouting, Rotary, faith-based organizations, clubs, etc., do NOT qualify for the academic fee waiver unless they meet the applicable criteria.
- Individuals 16 years or age and younger are exempt from entrance fees.
- All other individuals 17 years or age and older are charged the per-person entrance fee. Federal Recreation Pass holders and their immediate families (parents, spouse and children) do not have to pay. Pass and photo ID must be presented at the entrance station.